



Chinook's Edge School Division

Board of Trustees

Date: Tuesday, May 13, 2025
Time: 9:00 AM
Location: Boardroom

Practical Vision, Strategic Assumptions and Guiding Principles

Attendance

Trustees Present: H. Bilton, S. Cooper, M. Copley (9:07 a.m.) D. Hutchison, K. Kemmere, G. Kerr, T. Leslie, J. Swainson, L. Wagers

Trustees Absent: M. Copley

Staff Present: L. Woodward - Communications Coordinator, S. Russell - Associate Superintendent Corporate Services, K. Sacher - Superintendent/CEO, S. Babb – Assistant to the Superintendent, S. Westwood - Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary, T. Gusse - Governance Specialist, L. Woodward - Communications Coordinator

Call to Order

Chair H. Bilton called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

Land Acknowledgement • Treaty 7

Trustee H. Bilton opened the meeting with a Treaty 7 Land Acknowledgement.

Agenda/Minutes Approval

Agenda Approval

Resolution # 20250513001BOT

Moved By: D. Hutchison

Motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Carried

Minutes Approval

Resolution # 20250513002BOT

Moved By: K. Kemmere

Motion that Chinook's Edge School Division Board of Trustees approve the minutes on the 2025 April 08 Board of Trustees Meeting as amended.

Carried

In Camera

It was noted that H. Bilton, S. Cooper, M. Copley (9:07 a.m.), D. Hutchison, K. Kemmere, G. Kerr, T. Leslie, J. Swainson, L. Wagers, S. Russell and T. Gusse remained in the meeting at this time.

Resolution # 20250513003BOT

Moved By: D. Hutchison

Motion to move In Camera at 9:07 a.m.

Carried

Resolution # 20250513004BOT

Moved By: S. Cooper

Motion to return to the regular meeting at 9:35 a.m.

Carried

Personnel

During the In Camera portion of the meeting an update on personnel items was provided.

Resolution # 20250513005BOT

Moved By: J. Swainson

Motion to accept the personnel report as presented.

Carried

Superintendent's Personnel Update

During the In Camera portion of the meeting Superintendent K. Sacher provided a personnel update.

Facilities Update

During the In Camera portion of the meeting, Associate Superintendent Corporate Services S. Russell provided an update on facilities matters.

Resolution # 20250513006BOT

Moved By: S. Cooper

Motion that Chinook's Edge School Division Board of Trustees approve up to an additional \$50,000 out of capital reserves for the construction of the Penhold Waskasoo Middle School.

Carried

Negotiations Committee / TEBA Update

During the In Camera portion of the meeting, Associate Superintendent Corporate Services S. Russell and Trustee Leslie provided an update on Negotiations during the In Camera portion of the meeting.

Information Items

Accounts Payable

Visa

New Business

Recess 9:35 a.m.

Reconvene: 9:45 a.m.

Election Bylaws - First Reading

Bylaw 1-25: Establishment of a \$100 nomination deposit, as permitted under Section 29 of the Local Authorities Election Act. Deposit may be paid by cash, certified cheque, money order, debit or credit card. Refund provisions were reviewed and aligned with the Local Authorities Election Act.

Bylaw 2-25: Establishment of multiple voting stations in each ward/subdivision at the discretion of the Returning Officer as per Section 37 of the Local Authorities Election Act.

Resolution # 20250513007BOT

Moved By: S. Cooper

Motion that Chinook's Edge School Division Board of Trustees receive first reading of Bylaw No. 1/25 and Bylaw No. 2/25.

Carried

Election Bylaws - Second Reading

Resolution # 20250513008BOT

Moved By: T. Leslie

Motion that Chinook's Edge School Division Board of Trustees receive second reading of Bylaw No. 1/25 and Bylaw No. 2/25.

Carried

Election Motions

Associate Superintendent Corporate Services S. Russell provided an update on required motions regarding advanced voting and special ballots for the election.

Resolution # 20250513009BOT

Moved By: K. Kemmere

Motion that Chinook's Edge School Division Board of Trustees approve advanced voting for the Board of Trustees election(s). The number, location and dates of advanced voting stations will be determined by the returning officer in accordance with the Local Authorities Election Act.

Carried

Resolution # 20250513010BOT

Moved By: S. Cooper

Motion that Chinook's Edge School Division Board of Trustees approve the use of special ballots for the Board of Trustees election(s) in accordance with the Local Authorities Election Act. Special ballots will be provided if applications are received in writing, by telephone, in person, or by email to the attention of the Returning Officer.

Carried

Roy E. Cope Award Announcement

The Board of Trustees announced the recipients of the Roy E. Cope Award.

- Kurt Sacher
- Ted Harvey

ASBA Budget and Bylaws Bulletin

The Board of Trustees reviewed the background information for the ASBA Budget the Bylaws Bulletin.

Budget: A 2.5% membership fee increase was proposed and supported, in line with long-term reserve strategy. Discussion included member trust in the Board of Directors and prior motions affirming a gradual increase plan.

Bylaw Amendments: Key updates included removal of alternate directors and clarification of closed session procedures. The Board expressed support.

Emergent Resolution (Transportation Distance): Board expressed concern that the proposed resolution inaccurately specified a 1.0 km walk limit for elementary students only. Chinook's Edge confirmed their position is to advocate for a 1.6 km walk limit for all students.

The Board discussed ASBA's proposed advocacy to ensure school boards receive fair market value for land transfers. Discussion noted current provincial direction to transfer all future school titles to Alberta Infrastructure, with leases back to boards.

The Board agreed with the resolution and emphasized:

Municipalities and developers typically provide school land via Area Structure Plans.

The importance of cross-ministerial collaboration and municipal advocacy was noted.

Pre-K Program Update at 10:30 a.m.

Associate Superintendent Student Services M. Perdue and Division Principal M. McEwen attended the meeting to present the annual Pre-Kindergarten Program update.

Diversification: 33% of students with moderate language delays improved to average levels after attending division pre-K.

Enrollment: Program growth noted at Ross Ford and École Olds Elementary. Community placement and EAL student access are increasing.

Cost: \$100,000 per class, including EA support, therapy assistants, and SLP/OT.

Funding: New funding model combines prior grant “bags” and allows more flexibility in allocation.

Medically Fragile Students: Division Office provides \$750,000 from the internal budget for supports post-PUF eligibility.

Cross-Community Planning: Division tracks student origins and early identification gaps to guide future program placements.

Partnerships: Exploring MOUs with community preschools to support students not in division pre-K sites.

Locally Developed Courses

Resolution # 20250513011BOT

Moved By: J. Swainson

Motion that The Chinook’s Edge School Division Board of Trustees approve this 13th day of May, 2025, the following Locally Developed Course(s):

Artificial Intelligence 25	5 Credits (2025-2027)	LDC2026	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2026-2027
Artificial Intelligence 35	5 Credits(2025-2027)	LDC3026	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2026-2027
Band 15	3 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC1439	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029

Band 15	5 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC1439	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Band 25	3 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC2439	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Band 25	5 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC2439	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Band 35	3 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC3439	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Band 35	5 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC3439	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Chamber Ensemble 15	3 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC1417	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Chamber Ensemble 15	5 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC1417	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Chamber Ensemble 25	3 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC2417	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Chamber Ensemble 25	5 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC2417	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Chamber Ensemble 35	3 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC3417	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Chamber Ensemble 35	5 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC3417	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Choir 15	3 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC1414	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Choir 15	5 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC1414	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Choir 25	3 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC2414	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Choir 25	5 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC2414	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Choir 35	3 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC3414	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Choir 35	5 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC3414	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Design Thinking for Innovation 15	3 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC1131	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029

Design Thinking for Innovation 15	5 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC1131	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Design Thinking for Innovation 25	3 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC2131	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Design Thinking for Innovation 25	5 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC2131	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Design Thinking for Innovation 35	3 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC3131	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Design Thinking for Innovation 35	5 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC3131	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Film and Media Art 15	3 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC1092	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Film and Media Art 15	5 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC1092	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Film and Media Art 25	3 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC2092	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Film and Media Art 25	5 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC2092	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Film and Media Art 35	3 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC3092	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Film and Media Art 35	5 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC3092	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
French Vernacular 15	5 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC1401	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
French Vernacular 25	5 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC2401	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Instrumental Jazz 15	3 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC1431	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Instrumental Jazz 15	5 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC1431	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Instrumental Jazz 25	3 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC2431	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Instrumental Jazz 25	5 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC2431	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Instrumental Jazz 35	3 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC3431	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029

Instrumental Jazz 35	5 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC3431	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Introduction to Artificial Intelligence 15	5 Credits(2023-2027)	LDC1026	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2026-2027
Portfolio Art 35	3 Credits(2023-2027)	LDC3158	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2026-2027
Portfolio Art 35	5 Credits(2023-2027)	LDC3158	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2026-2027
Surviving Financially as an Adult 25	5 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC2220	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Surviving Financially as an Adult 35	5 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC3224	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Vocal Jazz 15	3 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC1433	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Vocal Jazz 15	5 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC1433	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Vocal Jazz 25	3 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC2433	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Vocal Jazz 25	5 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC2433	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Vocal Jazz 35	3 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC3433	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029
Vocal Jazz 35	5 Credits(2025-2029)	LDC3433	2025-2026	Sep-01-2025	2028-2029

Carried

Recognition of Student Excellence at 11:45 a.m.

The Board of Trustees recognized the following students for receiving 100 percent on their diploma exams.

- Sam Botheras, Sundre High School, Math 30-1 (Teacher – Stephen Pietsch) & Physics30 (Teacher – Kris Kowaliuk). 100% in both.
- Carlee Schneider, Innisfail High School, Math 30-2 (Teacher – Erin Lapierre Hand)

- Carlee also received 97% in Biology 30. Erin had four students that received 96% or higher.
- Sydney Van Ginhoven, École Olds High School, Math 30-1 (Teacher – Diane Stefanchuk)
- Tatyana Wolkowski, École H.J. Cody, Biology 30 (Teacher – Sarah J. Steinback)

Recess: 12:58 a.m.

Reconvene: 1:00 p.m.

School Calendar - 2026/2027

Associate Superintendent System Services K. Barber presented the 2026/2027 school calendar for approval.

Alignment with Red Deer Catholic: All but two days are now aligned between both divisions.

Instructional Days: 192 teacher days, 176 student days maintained.

Adjustments Made: Moved Professional Development days from February and March for balance. Final day for students June 29 and a Professional Development Day on June 30.

Discussion Points:

Trustees raised concerns about calendar consistency, number of Professional Development/non-instructional days, and long-term planning.

Suggestions included more strategic conversations and consideration of maximizing student instructional time.

The Board expressed a desire to revisit calendar philosophy outside of the annual approval timeline. A governance conversation for the future.

Resolution # 20250513012BOT

Moved By: G. Kerr

Motion that Chinook's Edge School Division Board of Trustees approve the 2026-2027 school calendar as presented.

Carried

Superintendent Update

Superintendent K. Sacher provided a written and verbal update on the following:

Highlights:

- Career Leaders Day:
 - Strong momentum and enthusiasm among high school leadership teams.
 - Superintendent emphasized pride in the group and how it reflects well on the division's third goal (career development and readiness).
- H.J. Cody School Visit:
 - Positive tone and engagement noted during staff visit.
 - Highlighted strong relationships and the school's welcoming atmosphere.
- Administrative Offsite Meeting:
 - Productive planning session.
 - Trustees who attended were thanked for their support.
 - Focus included:
 - Division-wide PD day planning
 - Structuring other divisional PD days for 2025–26.
 - UNESCO & Unified Sports Events in Olds:
 - Unique recognition for the school under the UNESCO international banner.
 - Unified sports event was powerful and inclusive.
 - Superintendent and incoming Superintendent R. Sawula were present.
 - University of Calgary Medical Students Presentation in memory of Julian Sacher
 - Special note: First scholarship recipient Laurel Ford is now in medical school.
 - Proud to highlight the Ford family's significant contributions, including large scholarships for Penhold students.
 - Transition Planning:

- Reassured the Board about the strong capabilities of the leadership team under Superintendent R. Sawula.
- Integrating C. Adamson into the Leadership Team.
- Planning continues for a smooth September 2025 launch under the new Superintendent.

Committees

Audit Committee

No meeting prior to this meeting.

Cheque Review Comments

Education Committee (April 29th)

The minutes of the 2025 April 29 Education Committee meeting were provided for review.

Resolution # 20250513013BOT

Moved By: S. Cooper

Motion that Chinook's Edge School Division Board of Trustees authorize up to \$100,000 from capital reserves for a retractable library partition at Penhold Crossing Secondary School.

Carried

Facilities and Maintenance Committee

No meeting prior to this meeting.

Governance Effectiveness Committee

No meeting prior to this meeting.

Policy Committee (May 1st)

The minutes of the 2025 May 1 Policy Committee meeting were provided for review.

Resolution # 20250513014BOT

Moved By: S. Cooper

Motion that Chinook's Edge School Division approves PL 3 - 8.1.1 Facilities and Property Names and PL 3-07.2.0 Sponsorships and Partnership as amended.

Carried

Resolution # 20250513015BOT

Moved By: G. Kerr

Motion that Chinook's Edge School Division Board of Trustees direct the Superintendent to add to the Board Work Plan in November an annual review of the Student Appeal (Expulsion) policies and procedures.

Carried

Resolution # 20250513016BOT

Moved By: G. Kerr

Motion that the Student Appeal Committee name be changed to the Student Expulsion Committee effective the 2025-2026 school year.

Carried

Flourishing Stories and Innovation Adhoc Committee (May 6th)

The minutes of the 2025 May 6 Flourishing Stories and Innovation Committee meeting were provided for review.

Resolution # 20250513017BOT

Moved By: D. Hutchison

Motion that Chinook's Edge School Division Board of Trustees approve the École Olds High School Empowering Students, Building Futures, Investing in Innovation application for matching fund up to \$5000.00.

Carried

Trustee Onboarding Adhoc Committee

The next meeting is scheduled for June 17 at 3:30 p.m.

Health Adhoc Committee

No meeting prior to this meeting.

Regular Business

Correspondence

The following correspondence was circulated:

- A thank you card from the Olds Kiwanis Music Festival.
- A thank you letter from Ruth Roedler, President, Central Alberta Rotary Science Fair.

Alberta School Boards Association

Board representative S. Cooper provided an update on ASBA items:

- Highlights from the April 28 Zone 4 meeting.
- Edwin Parr Celebration.
- The Spring General Meeting June 1-3 in Calgary.
- Benefits Program: Discussion around search charges and surplus fees. Chinook's Edge will follow up on current status.
- Committee Reductions: Recommendation to dissolve ARPDC and other inactive zone committees.
- Virtual Training: Trustees encouraged to review updated FOIP and privacy legislation training.

Canadian School Boards Association

No updated at this time.

National School Boards Association

No updates at this time.

Rural Caucus

The next Rural Caucus meeting will be held on Sunday, June 1st.

Trustee Professional Development Reports/Conferences

No reports at this time.

Information Items

Enrolments

The enrolment numbers as of May 7, 2025 were provided for review.

Approved Trip Requests

The approved trip requests were provided for review.

Board Work Plan

The Board Work Plan was provided for review.

Adjournment

Resolution # 20250513018BOT

Moved By: D. Hutchison

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:37 p.m.

Carried

H. Bilton - Chair

D. Hutchison - Vice Chair

S. Russell - Corporate Secretary